

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

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DRAFTED BY: S/NM:DHERNST

APPROVED BY: S/NM:DHERNST

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R 261450Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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STADIS

FOL REPEAT OF STATE 040102 TO GENEVA FEB 21

QTE:

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS

FOR GOUGH PASS VANCE

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 12, 1975 (RECEIVED IN S/NM FEBRUARY 20) ADDRESSED TO VANCE BY BARTELS (GENEVA HAS STATE 6775):

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR AMBASSADOR VANCE: I RECENTLY REVIEWED STATE CABLE 6775 AND THOUGHT I MIGHT TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PASS ON TO YOU SOME APPROPRIATE IDEAS
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I THINK BILL MACOMBER COULD DISCUSS WITH OUR TURKISH

COLLEAGUES.

3. AS YOU MAY RECALL, THE IRANIANS, DURING 1956-58, CARRIED OUT A VERY SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM AIMED AT DISCOURAGING ILLICIT OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION. LOW OVERFLIGHTS WERE USED AS A TOOL TO DISCOURAGE THE FARMERS AND DRIVE THEM FROM THE POPPY FIELDS. IN FACT, AFTER THE PROGRAM WAS COMPLETED, NUMEROUS FARMERS WERE INTERVIEWED AND THEY CONFIRMED THAT THE OVERFLIGHTS HAD DISSUADED THEM IN THEIR EFFORT TO CULTIVATE ILLICIT POPPY.

4. DURING THE ABOVE PROGRAM, THE IRANIAN GENDARMERIE

USED ONLY ABOUT 35 CESSNA 185 AIRCRAFT. MORE RECENTLY, WE EXPERIENCED THE SUCCESSFUL UTILIZATION OF AIRCRAFT IN MEXICO, NOT ONLY DURING COMPASS TRIP BUT ALSO IN OPERATION SEA/M. IN THE LATTER PROGRAM, WE OBSERVED OPIUM POPPY FARMERS DESERT THEIR FIELDS UPON THE SIGHTING OF AIRCRAFT.

5. I FULLY SUPPORT THE COMMENTS IN PARAGRAPH FIVE OF THE REFERENCED CABLE AND WOULD LIKE TO ADD THAT DEA STANDS READY TO OFFER THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT ALL POSSIBLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. IN FACT, AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW, WE HAVE NUMEROUS HIGHLY QUALIFIED PILOTS WHO COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE IF THAT AREA OF TECHNICAL SUPPORT BECOMES A PROBLEM FOR THE TURKISH JANDARMA.

6. WE HAVE VERIFIED THAT THE TURKISH ARMY HAS A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF CESSNA "SPOTTER TYPE" AIRCRAFT WHICH WOULD BE IDEAL FOR THE PROPOSED TURKISH AERIAL SURVEY PROGRAM.

7. I THINK BILL MACOMBER SHOULD MAKE AN APPROPRIATE DEMARCHE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER ESENBEL TO ENSURE THAT THE JANDARMA IS SUPPLIED WITH AN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT THEIR PATROLS DURING THE HARVEST. IF THE TURKISH ARMY IS UNABLE TO FULLY SUPPORT THE JANDARMA, THEN PERHAPS BILL SHOULD OFFER TO PROVIDE, ON A LOAN BASIS, US SPOTTER AIRCRAFT AND PILOTS TO AUGMENT THE JANDARMA FORCE. OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COURSE, THE AIRCRAFT WOULD HAVE TO CARRY APPROPRIATE TURKISH MARKINGS, ETC. I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM OF AERIAL SURVEILLANCE, LINKED TO GROUND INTERCEPT TEAMS, COULD GREATLY REDUCE THE FARMERS OPPORTUNITY AND DESIRE TO ENTER THE FIELDS AND LANCE POPPIES DURING THE CRITICAL TWO WEEK PERIOD.

8. SINCE WE ARE NOT EXPERTS IN THE CULTIVATION, HARVEST-

ING AND CONTROL OF OPIUM POPPY, WE SHOULD AT THE VERY
LEAST, OFFER OUR LOGISTICAL AND OPERATIONAL EXPERTISE
TO THE JANDARMA DURING A PERIOD WHEN THE EFFICACY OF
THAT ORGANIZATION WILL BE PUT TO THE ULTIMATE TEST.
A FULL OVERFLIGHT CAPABILITY IN THE HANDS OF THE
JANDARMA WOULD ALSO ENABLE THAT ORGANIZATION TO DETECT
ANY ILLICIT OPIUM PRODUCTION IN CORUM, TOQZT, AND
AMASIA AREAS OF NORTH CENTRAL TURKEY AND THE MALATYA,
ELAZIG AND ADIYAMAN PROVINCES IN EASTERN TURKEY WHERE
ILLICIT CULTIVATION IS SUSPECTED. SINCERELY,
JOHN R. BARTELS, JR., ADMINISTRATOR. END TEXT. KISSINGER
UNQTE KISSINGER

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